

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2035

Introduced by
Hon. Christopher V.P. de Venecia

A RESOLUTION
URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE SPECIAL
COMMITTEE ON CREATIVE INDUSTRY AND PERFORMING ARTS AND
OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE STATE OF THE PHILIPPINE VISUAL ARTS AND OTHER RELATED
INDUSTRIES

WHEREAS, the Visual Arts sector was found to have contributed 2.8 Billion Pesos to the country's Gross Domestic Product in 2012, according to a study conducted by the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) published in 2014;

WHEREAS, due to the onslaught of the Covid-19 pandemic, the country's museums and galleries closed down, whether temporarily or permanently, and laid off employees due to the drastic decrease in revenues of such establishments;

WHEREAS, due to the restrictions made to control the Covid-19 virus, visual artists have had limited to no access to art materials that they otherwise need to sustain their trade and craft;

WHEREAS, the visual art sector, its artists, and gallerists, have started the shift to online modes of showcasing and distributing artwork, such as gallerists setting up websites for their curated pieces or visual artists themselves using new technology such as Non-Fungible Tokens or NFTs to sell their art pieces;

WHEREAS, the National Museum was one of the first government agencies to establish an online presence, receiving positive feedback especially from learners who have been able to access the National Museum galleries online, promoting the visual arts to the learners;

WHEREAS, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts is embarking on a mapping activity for the visual arts sector to gather relevant data and



information from the sector in preparation for its recovery and development roadmap;

WHEREAS, while laudable are these efforts, a whole of government approach must be taken to support the visual arts sector;

WHEREAS, problems that have plagued the visual arts community remain unresolved, including the proper implementation of Republic Act No. 9105 or the Anti-Forgery Act of 2001, the recognition of visual art works and tools as items exempt from customs duties under Section 800 of Republic Act No. 10863 or the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act, and the implementation of the 5% inalienable right to participate in the gross proceeds of the sale or lease of original work of painting or sculpture under Section 200 of Republic Act No. 8293 or the Intellectual Property Code, among other issues that undercut the development of Filipino visual arts;

WHEREAS, the Covid-19 pandemic has brought about challenges and opportunities for the visual arts sector that the Philippine government must capitalize on to help the sector recover from the negative effects of the pandemic and to provide it a roadmap to development;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives, that the Special Committee on Creative Industry and Performing Arts, as well as other appropriate committees of the House of Representative, be urged to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to discuss the state of the Philippine Visual Arts sector and other related industries, with the end view of addressing the pressing issues that the sector has been facing not only since the pandemic started but also those that have plagued the sector, as well as to aid the sector to pivot to digital platforms.

Adopted,


HON. CHRISTOPHER V.P. DE VENECIA